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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Akira YAMAUCHI	Art Unit:
Application No.: filed concurrently	Examiner:
Title: JOINING APPARATUS	
International Application No.: PCT/JP2003/012205	
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Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the examination for this application, please amend
the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this
paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.